

Max Spiegel in Sanatorium as Creditors Act

Theater Owner Petitioned Into Bankruptcy, With Assets Put at \$300,000 and Debts at \$750,000

Building Cost Too Great Tremendous Financial Load Undertaken by Former Schenectady Manager

Max Spiegel, whose meteoric rise in the theatrical world has made him a nationally known figure, was petitioned into involuntary bankruptcy yesterday when creditors learned he had been sent to a sanatorium in Stamford, Conn., last week suffering from mental collapse. His liabilities are expected to reach \$750,000, with probable assets of \$300,000.

The petitioning creditors are Morris C. Rosenbaum, claiming \$20,000; Edwin Monett, \$3,000, and Charles Mohr, \$3,223. Federal Judge Julian Mack granted the petition and appointed Sol Brill and Edward Hynes joint receivers.

Friends of Spiegel said the cause of his failure was the signing of contracts leaving certain properties with the understanding that he must tear down existing improvements and erect new theaters. The sudden rise in the cost of building materials made this impossible. The knowledge that the crash was not far distant preyed on his mind, it is said, and on December 11 his brother, Leo Spiegel, asked for his commitment.

Interested in All Branches

Max Spiegel has been interested in every branch of theatrical ventures, burlesques, vaudeville, legitimate and motion pictures. The large holdings he had in the new Sheridan Theater in Greenwich Village and two big vaudeville units placed him under a tremendous financial load.

After embarking on his career as manager of a theater in Schenectady he branched out, buying several motion picture houses. He came to New York to hold a franchise in the Columbia burlesque wheel with a show called "Max Spiegel's College Widow." Shortly after this he married Annette Mark, daughter of Mitchell H. Mark, owner of the Strand Theater. He became vice-president of the Strand Theater and was financially interested in the executive end of a string of twelve theaters here and elsewhere.

Mark Realty Firm Not Involved

Walter Hays, vice-president of the Mitchell H. Mark Realty Corporation, which operates the Strand theaters here and in other cities, made the following statement:

"Mr. Spiegel, although formerly an officer of Mitchell H. Mark Realty Corporation, spent only a part of his time in its affairs. His energies were devoted mainly to the promotion of various enterprises, in which neither the Mitchell H. Mark Realty Corporation nor any of its officers had any interest, direct or indirect.

"Our company has not been concerned in Mr. Spiegel's transactions, and his resulting financial situation in no way involves our interests."

To protect creditors and endeavor to straighten out his affairs, which are said to be in a chaotic state, the receivers will continue the operation of his varied enterprises.

Blood Transfusion for Nose-Bleed Saves Life

ATLANTIC CITY, Dec. 19.—The life of Charles Lloyd, twenty years old, of Linwood, a suburb of this city, was saved to-day, when a relative volunteered for a blood transfusion, and the operation stopped a nose-bleed that for three days had baffled all efforts of physicians at the City Hospital.

Lloyd struck his nose against a door in his home. The transfusion was tried on a chance that it would cause the blood to congeal. The remedy was said by attending physicians, to be unusual for this particular ailment.

McGraw Defeats Suit

Giant Manager Not Liable for Auto Accident, Judge Finds

John J. McGraw, who, as manager, helped to win pennants for the Giants, maintained his winning streak in the Supreme Court yesterday by coming out victorious in a suit for \$30,000 damages brought against him by Mrs. Mary A. Butterfield, of 163 West 102d Street, for injuries suffered October, 1917, when she was struck by McGraw's automobile.

The baseball manager testified that he had told his chauffeur, Frank Kauff, not to take his car from the garage while he, McGraw, was out of the city. Kauff disobeyed these instructions. Justice Tierney dismissed the action of Mrs. Butterfield, holding that the chauffeur was driving the car without his employer's permission at the time of the accident and therefore the defendant was not liable.



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House Inquiry On Daugherty Nears Finish

No New Evidence in Keller Charges, the Committee Turns to Woodruff, Who Will Testify To-day

Report After Christmas

Johnson Says His Complaint Was Against War Officials, Not Attorney General

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—Proceedings before the House Judiciary Committee, in connection with the impeachment charges brought against Attorney General Daugherty by Representative Keller, Republican, of Minnesota, appeared to-day to be nearing an end.

It was indicated that the scope of future hearings would depend largely upon the nature of information to be laid before the committee by Representative Woodruff, Republican, of Michigan, after his examination of documents at the Department of Justice.

After a brief public session to-day, at which no additional evidence was received, the committee decided in executive session to hear Mr. Woodruff to-morrow. There is a tacit understanding that the report will be withheld until after the Christmas holidays.

Mr. Keller having withdrawn from the prosecution of his charges, the

committee had before it to-day Mr. Woodruff and Representative Johnson, Republican, of South Dakota. Both emphasized that they had had no part in the drafting of the Keller charges and that they were appearing solely in response to an invitation from Chairman Volstead.

Declaring he had been "dragged" into the hearing, Representative Johnson said the charges he had made in the House, relating to alleged war frauds, had been directed solely at the War Department. If the committee wanted to go into these charges he was prepared to give the names of witnesses to support them, he continued, adding that there were officers in the department who "should be court-martialed, instead of promoted."

As to the Department of Justice action in regard to war fraud cases, Mr. Johnson said, that in his judgment Attorney General Daugherty had proceeded with reasonable promptness.

Representative Woodruff told the committee that since he made his charges last April the situation had changed, "due to the fact that the Attorney General has started suit or taken the necessary action to begin proceedings in at least six of the eight or nine cases I mentioned in my charges." He said he had had nothing to do with the preparation of Mr. Keller's impeachment charges.

Baruch Before Grand Jury

Voluntary Witness in War Industries Contract Cases

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—Bernard M. Baruch, former chairman of the War Industries Board, was one of the witnesses appearing to-day before the Federal grand jury investigating war contracts.

Little regarding Mr. Baruch's testimony was permitted to become public, further than that he appeared at the request of the jury itself, rather than in response to subpoena, and that neither Mr. Baruch nor the War Industries Board had any connection with the contracts under examination.

Christmas Turkeys Will Be Cheaper, Say Dealers

They Forecast Plentiful Supply at a Reduction From 5 to 10 Cents a Pound

Cheaper turkeys for Christmas were promised yesterday by both wholesale and retail dealers. They forecast a plentiful supply, at reductions varying according to quality, of from five to ten cents a pound, which should bring the cost of the Christmas dinner bird to between 50 and 62 cents.

The fancy birds, such as Maryland and the best of the Western turkeys, may sell in the more exclusive shops for about 65 cents a pound, but the dealers feel certain that the average housewife will find any quantity of suitable fowls at about 55 cents.

Lack of demand because of the high price at Thanksgiving time, when turkeys were fetching 70 cents and over, is thought to be responsible for some dealers for the reduction in price, although most of them agreed that heavier shipments which are being received for the Christmas trade

are the real reason. A month ago, it was pointed out, many of the larger shippers held back their turkeys, hoping for higher prices, thereby creating what appeared to be a scarcity and forcing the price up somewhat. The demand did not meet expectations, and with Christmas the last of the holidays at which turkeys are bought quite generally they are rushing all of their stock to market.

Year's Coldest Weather Nips City; Snow Delayed

With a temperature of 15 degrees above zero most of yesterday New York experienced the coldest weather of the year. The thermometer was expected to register 12 degrees before dawn.

This will be the limit, however, and with it the backbone of the cold snap will be broken, the Weather Bureau said, since the snow, which has been expected for two days, won't fall until to-morrow.

The snow storm, which is expected to be light, is being blown in on a biting southeast to south wind, but the weather man said he expected the temperature to mount to 30 degrees or above by to-morrow noon.

Church Members Charge Promoter With Fraud

BRIDGETON, N. J., Dec. 19.—George A. Bone, whose home is thought to be in Atlantic City, was arrested here to-day charged with selling worthless securities to Bridgeton residents, most of whom are declared to have become interested in his scheme while talking to his wife at one of the numerous church affairs in which she took an active part. Most of the \$12,000 which, according to the police, he has raised

here in the last four months came from church members. Bone is alleged to have promised huge profits from the stock which he was selling, declaring that his company had bought the motion picture rights to a Broadway success and promising investors their money back with 8 per cent interest if they became dissatisfied. He was in Baltimore when an investigation by a prospective purchaser led to the discovery that his stock was questionable. He was brought back to Bridgeton by a deputy letter in which the writer offered to invest \$2,000 in his venture.

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